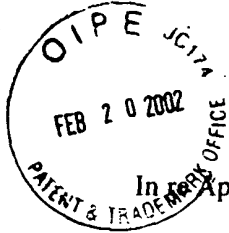


LMC:jbh:jjv 02/04/02

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Attorney Reference No. 6047-51973  
Application No. 09/321,518  
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gilton et al.

Art Unit: 2814

Application No. 09/321,518

Filed: May 27, 1999

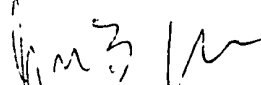
For: SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION  
METHODS AND APPARATUS

Examiner: W. Louie

Date: February 4, 2002

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Jeffrey B. Haendler, Esq.  
Attorney for Applicants

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

This responds to the Office action, dated November 2, 2001.

REMARKS

Claims 39-56 are pending the present application. Reconsideration is requested.

***I. Rejection of Claims 39-56 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)***

Claims 39-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,762,755 to McNeilly et al., (hereinafter McNeilly). Applicants traverse this rejection and request that it be withdrawn.

2814

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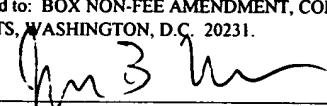
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Jeffrey B. Haendler, Esq.  
Attorney for Applicants

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Enclosed is an Amendment for the above application. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

For	No. after amendment	No. paid for previously	Present Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	18	46	= 0	\$18.00	\$ 0.00
Indep. Claims	8	16	= 0	\$84.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0.00

\* greater of twenty or number for which fee has been paid.

\*\* greater of three or number for which fee has been paid.

☒ No additional fee is required.

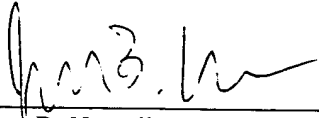
☒ Please charge any fees that may be required in connection with filing this amendment and any extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Please return the enclosed postcard to confirm that the items listed above have been received.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey B. Haendler  
Registration No. 43,652

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121 S.W. Salmon Street  
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Facsimile: (503) 228-9446

cc: Docketing